NKRUPTCY COURT IFORNIA · NORTHERN DIVISION			
CASE NO.: 9:24-bk-10717-RC			
CHAPTER: 13			
RESPONSE TO MOTION REGARDING THE AUTOMATIC STAY AND DECLARATION(S) IN SUPPORT			
DATE: 04/22/2025 TIME: 9:00 am COURTROOM: 201 PLACE: 1415 State Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101			
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SPONSE, EXHIBITS AND DECLARATIONS:			
ion(s) must be served upon:			
s not have an attorney); case.			
Then the document must be filed with the court.			
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2.		LIN	IITED OPPOSITION
	a.		Respondent opposes the Motion only to the extent that it seeks immediate relief from stay. Respondent requests that no lock out, foreclosure, or repossession take place before (date): and the reason for this request is (specify):
	b.		As set forth in the attached declaration of the Respondent or the Debtor, the motion is opposed only to the extent that it seeks a specific finding that the Debtor was involved in a scheme to hinder, delay or defraud creditors.
			The Debtor:
			(1) has no knowledge of the Property.
			(2) has no interest in the Property.
			(3) has no actual possession of the Property.
			(4) was not involved in the transfer of the Property.
	C.		Respondent opposes the Motion and will request a continuance of the hearing since there is an application for a loan modification under consideration at this time. Evidence of a pending loan modification is attached as Exhibit
3.	$\boxtimes$	OF	POSITION: The Respondent opposes granting of the Motion for the reasons set forth below.
	a.	$\boxtimes$	The Motion was not properly served (specify):
			<ul> <li>Not all of the required parties were served.</li> <li>☑ There was insufficient notice of the hearing.</li> </ul>
		(3)	16 /
			그렇게 하다면 하는 그는 하나는 것 같아. 하다 그 때문에 모르겠다고 하는 것 하나는 사람이 없는 것이다.
	b.	$\boxtimes$	Respondent disputes the allegations/evidence contained in the Motion and contends as follows:
		(1)	The value of the Property is \$ 848,900.00, based upon (specify):  Realtor.com
		(2)	★ Total amount of debt (loans) on the Property is \$ 200,000.00
		(3)	More payments have been made to Movant than the Motion accounts for. True and correct copies of canceled checks proving the payments that have been made are attached as Exhibit
		(4)	There is a loan modification agreement in effect that lowered the amount of the monthly payments. A true and correct copy of the loan modification agreement is attached as Exhibit
		(5)	The Property is necessary for an effective reorganization. Respondent filed or intends to file a plan of reorganization that requires use of the Property. A true and correct copy of the plan is attached as Exhibit
		(6)	The Property is fully provided for in the chapter 13 plan and all postpetition plan payments are current. A true and correct copy of the chapter 13 plan is attached as Exhibit and proof that the plan payments are current through the chapter 13 trustee is attached as Exhibit
		(7)	The Property is insured. Evidence of current insurance is attached as Exhibit

			Main Document Page 3 of 21
	(8)		Movant's description of the status of the unlawful detainer proceeding is not accurate.
	(9)	$\boxtimes$	Respondent denies that this bankruptcy case was filed in bad faith.
	(10)	$\boxtimes$	The Debtor will be prejudiced if the Nonbankruptcy Action is allowed to continue the nonbankruptcy forum.
	(11)	$\boxtimes$	Other ( <i>specify</i> ): Debtors are victims of duel tracking, fraud, wrongful foreclosure, and many statutory violations.
C.	$\boxtimes$	Res	spondent asserts the following as shown in the declaration(s) filed with this Response:
	(1)		The bankruptcy case was converted from chapter to chapter
	(2)		All postpetition arrearages will be cured by the hearing date on this motion.
	(3)		The Property is fully provided for in the chapter 13 plan and all postpetition plan payments are current, or will be cured by the hearing date on this motion.
	(4)	$\boxtimes$	The Debtor has equity in the Property in the amount of \$ 648,900.00
	(5)	$\boxtimes$	Movant has an equity cushion of \$ 648,900.00 or 76.44 % which is sufficient to provide adequate protection.
	(6)		The Property is necessary for an effective reorganization because ( <i>specify</i> ): It is an income producing property, and the major source of Debtors' income. Debtors and their tenants are elderly people. If the Debtors and the tenants are evicted, they would all become homeless.
	(7)		The motion should be denied because ( <i>specify</i> ):  The Debtors filed their Ch13 bankruptcy petition before the foreclosure sale was completed. Movant admits that the foreclosure sale was completed at 1:55 PM on June 26, 2024. Debtors filed at 1:50 PM.
	(8)	$\boxtimes$	An optional memorandum of points and authorities is attached in support of this Response.
			TO AUTHENTICATE EXHIBITS AND TO SUPPORT FACTS INSERTED IN THE RESPONSE:  are the following documents in support of this Response:
×	1 De	clar	ation by the Debtor Declaration by the Debtor's attorney
			ation by trustee  Declaration by trustee's attorney  Other (specify): Attached Exhibits.
Date:	04/0	08/2	
			Printed name of law firm for Respondent (if applicable)
			Joe McKenna Printed name of individual Respondent or attorney for Respondent
			De McKlime
			Signature of individual Respondent or attorney for Respondent

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4.

RUTH MCKENNA and JOE MCKENNA 317 East Prune Avenue, Unit A Lompoc, CA 93436 805-717-1364	FOR COURT USE ONLY		
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA NORTHERN DIVISION			
In Re: JOE ANGUS MCKENNA and RUTH ALLISON MCKENNA, Debtors.			
	Chapter 13		
DECLARATION OF JOE MCKENNA	Case No. 9:24-bk-10717-RC		
DECEARATION OF GOE MORE	Hearing Date: April 22, 2025 Time: 9:00 AM		
DECLARATION OF J	OE MCKENNA		
I, JOE MCKENNA, declare under penalty of perjury as	s follows:		
1. I am a competent adult and one of the Debtors in th	is case.		
2. My wife and Co-Debtor, RUTH MCKENNA, and	I filed our Chapter 13 bankruptcy petition at		
1:50 PM on June 26, 2024.			
3. OLIVIA REYES, agent for Movant and who "managed every aspect of the property from			
Movant's acquisition to now" (See REAL PROPERTY DECLARATION paragraph "1.b."),			
<b>ADMITS</b> that the Movant purchased the subject property at 1:55 PM on June 26, 2024. Movant's			
foreclosure sale purchase of our home was five minutes after Debtors had filed their Ch13			
bankruptcy petition. (See paragraph "1." of the Supplemental Declaration of OLIVA REYES.) The			
automatic stay was in place at 1:50 PM on June 26, 2024. The foreclosure sale should have been			

rescinded as soon as the Carrington Foreclosure Services Trustee / Director, TAI ALAILIMA, got

5. Debtors tried to get a loan modification from creditor Carrington Mortgage Services (CMS) from

days, even weeks later, and months later. Debtors were amazed at how they all knew so quickly, and

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e.	
	that they all had Debtors' phone numbers. Apparently there are many outfits that specialize in
	helping people "recover" their surplus funds — The "Surplus Funds Brigade" as Debtors jokingly
	call them. Actually they are mostly a bunch of vultures, but not all. Each law firm said they would
	only charge Debtors anywhere between one-tenth and one-third of the amount to help Debtors get
	their surplus funds. That would mean Debtors paying out \$20,000 to \$66,666 for doing something
	Debtors could easily do themselves in less than an hour. It's a matter of just filling out a simple three
	page form, getting it notarized, and sending it in with copies of the Debtors' IDs. Debtors explained
	to each law firm that they had filed a Chapter 13 bankruptcy petition at 1:50 PM, and that the
	foreclosure sale had to be eventually rescinded. So, there would be no surplus funds.
	9. Debtors did however hire the law firm of Attorney Michael J. Fox, and Debtors were working
	with Mr. Fox's legal assistants CALVIN CHADWICK and DIANA KEANE. CALVIN and DIANA
	had several emails and telephone exchanges with the CFS foreclosure trustee, TAI ALAILIMA.
	They both told Mr. Alailima that their records show the trustee's sale occurred at 2:51 PM, and they
	showed proof of when Debtors filed their bankruptcy petition. Then after MR. ALAILIMA found
	out that the Debtors filed their bankruptcy petition at 1:50 PM, Mr. Alailima made a newly
	discovered claim that the foreclosure sale of Debtors property happened at 1:49 PM, June 26, 2024,
	not 2:51 PM as publicly reported by PropertyRadar. Mr. Alailima fraudulently changed the time the
	sale was completed to just one minute before the Debtors filed their bankruptcy petition. Mr.
	Alailima had to pick a time that was as close to the real time as possible (2:51 PM), yet make it
	appear that the Debtors were too late in getting their automatic stay from the bankruptcy court. Mr.
	Alailima knew or had reason to know Debtors would have to fight this issue in court, probably
	thinking Debtors would never be able to take legal action against him and his company. Please see
***	the email exchange between those at the Michael B. fox law firm and Tai Alailima. Please see
	Exhibit B.
	10. Mr. Alailima went ahead and ran with the lie that the foreclosure sale happened at 1:49 PM. He
	eventually signed a Trustees Deed in favor of Movant, HOLLYVALE RENTAL HOLDINGS, LLC
	(HRH), giving HRH a \$448,900 windfall, and a \$448,900 loss for the Debtors. (\$848,900 property
	value -\$400,000 sale price = \$448,900 (See Exhibit C)). There could be a possible kickback

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stay was in place before any of the average sale times.

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- 13. Now Debtors would like to discuss how CMS mistreated and tricked the Debtors. In 2020 through 2023, Debtors were having severe health issues, which negatively affected their income, and they fell behind in their mortgage payments. During the whole year of 2022, which was in the middle of the pandemic, Debtors' tenant in Unit B decided not to pay her rent. Debtors eventually had to file an unlawful detainer action against that tenant. This also contributed to Debtor's financial troubles. Debtor's reluctantly settled the case with a loss of about \$11,000, just to stop the bleeding. Coincidentally, this amount was about how much Debtors were behind in their mortgage payments at that point in time.
- 14. About February 2024 Debtors were approached by CMS about a possible loan modification. Debtors agreed to participate in the process. The Debtors were waiting to receive a loan modification application but never received one. Some time went by, and CMS produced and mailed an offer for a loan modification. This is without CMS even knowing Debtors' financial situation. Still no loan modification application was sent.
- 15. Debtors did not sign the loan modification agreement as the loan payments were too high as a result of CMS's non-compliance with modification guidelines. Debtors were told by CMS that it would review the matter again and, as long as the matter was being reviewed, there would be no foreclosure of their property. The representative that Debtors spoke with never indicated that any pending foreclosure would proceed. Debtor's asked again for an application. As previously stated, CMS and CFS went ahead with the foreclosure sale. They were engaging in duel tracking.
- 16. Debtors are almost finished with the state civil complaint against CMS, CFS, HRH, and the foreclosure trustee, Tai Alailima. So far there are 16 legal causes of action against the defendants.
- 17. Our electrical power got shut off, and I was prevented to pay my utility bill because the subject property is technically in Hollyvale Rental Holdings (HRH) name. I was told I need a lease agreement with HRH. I was also told that the City Utilities needed proof that my latest bankruptcy case was dismissed. Someone from HRH contacted someone in the Utility/Legal department and claimed that my wife and I don't own the subject property and that we were living in it illegally. This is not true. It may be true that county records show that the property is in HRH's name but the title to

the property is in litigation. So the HRH person who told the city about the title left out the fact that a

court order is needed to determine who really owns my property. HRH is in battle with me and my wife for title to the property. HRH thinks it needs to cheat to win. HRH was hoping that city personnel are mindless robots and will believe any lie and follow strict procedural rules. HRH wanted to shut us down so we can't fight. Thank God my wife and I had discussions with the City of Lompoc's attorney, and he felt sorry for us and he told the utility department to allow us to pay our bill without a lease agreement from HRH, and our power got turned back on.

18. This action arises out of the worst global pandemic in about 100 years. Businesses were shut

- down, some forever. Debtors' business was forcibly shut down for six months in 2020. People were urged to stay at home. People were getting infected with Covid-19 all over the world. In the US, the majority of people were suffering financially. Debtors were among those who were greatly affected by the pandemic in many ways, i.e., physically, mentally, and financially. The government created new laws and financial assistance for homeowners. The new laws and assistance helped many people in the US, but only partially. However, some people and some financial institutions took selfish advantage of the pandemic situation. Carrington Mortgage Services (CMS) was one of them. Human lives were affected by CMS's actions. It has recently come to light that, in their quest to foreclose on properties as quickly as possible, to gain more assets, CMS and other lenders have been acting outside of the law in its foreclosure practice.
- 19. Specifically, CMS has been found guilty of many wrongdoings during our nation's time of great turmoil. Instead of giving back to the community, and helping the people who made the CMS owners rich, CMS took advantage of the horrific situation. CMS added salt to the wounds. Carrington Mortgage Services (CMS) has been involved in several lawsuits, including:

#### CONVENIENCE FEES

In 2020, a class action lawsuit was filed against Carrington Mortgage Services for charging convenience fees for online and phone payments. The fees were not part of the borrowers' mortgage agreements and were alleged to violate state and federal consumer protection laws. The settlement included a common fund of \$18,181,898.95, which represented 35% of the convenience fees collected from 2016–2021.

#### FALSE CLAIMS ACT

Michelle Calderon, a former Carrington employee, sued the company for allegedly making false representations to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Calderon claims that Carrington made these false statements when certifying residential mortgage loans for insurance coverage from the Federal Housing Administration (FHA).

#### CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION ACT

In 2022, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) took action against Carrington Mortgage Services for deceptive practices and wrongly charged fees. The CFPB found that Carrington failed to implement many protections for borrowers who were experiencing financial hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## MACHOLTZ vs. CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC

This case is about whether the terms of a Loan Modification Agreement (LMA) bind successor lenders and servicers. CMS wrongfully foreclosed on the Debtor, and it was found guilty of many other wrongdoings.

#### THOMAS vs. CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC

This case is about whether Carrington Mortgage Services fully complied with the substantive requirements of a regulation.

There are numerous other cases against CMS, but there is no need to list all of them. The Debtors just wanted the court to know a little more about what the Debtors have been dealing with.

20. Financial institutions taking advantage of people is not new. There was a large increase in deceptive practices after the financial meltdown of 2008. Thereafter, on October 4, 2010, members of the California Democratic Congressional Delegation wrote a letter to Eric Holder, United States Attorney General; Ben S. Bernanke, Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; and John Walsh, Acting Comptroller of the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, urging them "to investigate possible violations of law or regulations by financial institutions in their handling of delinquent mortgages, mortgage modifications, and foreclosures." The letter was supported by numerous California case studies, several of which described scenarios that were substantially similar to the wrongful conduct inflicted on Debtors by CMS.

she is taking care of one of the tenants who is a 75 year old man, with multiple issues. Debtor, Joe

McKenna, is a paralegal by trade, who keeps up with his MCLEs, mainly helping attorneys who help low income people. The Debtors have three cats that were born and raised on the subject real

low income people. The Debtors have three cats that were born and raised on the subject real

property, and they had two rescue dogs that died, but they are currently looking for another rescue dog. When Debtors get the foreclosure sale set aside, the Debtors plan on getting a reverse mortgage

to pay off whatever amount, if any, the court deems proper.

23. Movant mentions three Ch13 bankruptcies filed about seven years ago. Debtors had to file those bankruptcies because of CMS'S penchant for engaging in duel tracking and other fraudulent

activities. Eventually Debtors got a loan modification and everything was fine until the pandemic.

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1	I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of both the State of California and the					
2	United States of America that the foregoing facts are true and correct. Executed on April 8, 2025, in					
3	Lompoc, California.					
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5		Joe Meterna				
6	Dated: April 8, 2025					
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**EXHIBIT A** 

### Notice of Bankruptcy Case Filing

A bankruptcy case concerning the debtor(s) listed below was filed under Chapter 13 of the United States Bankruptcy Code, entered on 06/26/2024 at 1:50 PM and filed on 06/26/2024.

Joe Angus McKenna 317 #A E. Prune Ave. Lompoc, CA 93436

SSN/ITIN: xxx-xx-6946

dba McKennas Legal Documents

Ruth Allison McKenna

317 #A E. Prune Ave. Lompoc, CA 93436 SSN / ITIN: xxx-xx-7377

The bankruptcy trustee is:

Elizabeth (ND) F Rojas (TR)

Valley Executive Tower 15260 Ventura Blvd., Suite 830 Sherman Oaks, CA 91403 818-933-5700

The case was assigned case number 9:24-bk-10717-RC to Judge Ronald A Clifford.

In most instances, the filing of the bankruptcy case automatically stays certain collection and other actions against the debtor and the debtor's property. Under certain circumstances, the stay may be limited to 30 days or not exist at all, although the debtor can request the court to extend or impose a stay. If you attempt to collect a debt or take other action in violation of the Bankruptcy Code, you may be penalized. Consult a lawyer to determine your rights in this case.

If you would like to view the bankruptcy petition and other documents filed by the debtor, they are available at our *Internet* home page www.cacb.uscourts.gov or at the Clerk's Office, 1415 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101-2511.

You may be a creditor of the debtor. If so, you will receive an additional notice from the court setting forth important deadlines.

Kathleen J. Campbell Clerk, U.S. Bankruptcy Court

**EXHIBIT B** 

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Case 9:24-bk-10717-RC Doc 19 Filed 02/13/25 Entered 02/13/25 13:49:23 Desc Main Document Page 11 of 12

From: Calvin Chadwick < foxmjlawc@gmail.com >

Sent: Tuesday, July 2, 2024 3:47 PM

To: Tai Alailima < Tai. Alailima@carringtonfcl, com>

Cc: Diana Keane < diana@foxmjlaw.com>

Subject: Re: URGENT: RE: TS# 23-29934 / BK Filing To Stop Sale

Hello Tai,

Our records indicate that the sale occurred at 2:51pm. Please provide documentation to support that the sale occurred at 1:49 so we can show our clients the time stamp. beings that they were one minute off, is there any way you will consider rescinding the sale as our clients have every intention to follow through with the terms of the bankruptcy.

On Tue, Jul 2, 2024 at 2:59 PM Tai Alailima < <a href="mailto:Tai.Alailima@carringtonfcl.com">Tai.Alailima@carringtonfcl.com</a>> wrote: Per our records from the auctioneer the sale was completed at 13:49. The sale will not be rescinded.

#### Tai Alailima | Director, Trustee Operations

Carrington Foreclosure Services, LLC 1600 South Douglass Road, Suite 140 Anaheim, CA 92806

Office: (949) 517-6410 Cell: (949) 943-0877 Fax: (949) 534-9551 Case 9:24-bk-10717-RC Doc 34 Filed 04/09/25 Entered 04/09/25 07:39:19 Desc Main Document Page 18 of 21

# **EXHIBIT C**





Street View

What's your equity? (It's easy to find ou

Off Market

**6,098** sqft lot

317 E Prune Ave, Lompoc, CA 93436

Single Family Property type Last sold

\$175K in 2010

Share View as owner

US Military & Veterans \$100,000 Home Giveaway. See Off. Rules

Interested in selling 317 E Prune Ave?

Estimated value\*

317 E Prune Ave, Lompoc, CA 93436

• Est. \$848,900

**6,098** sqft lot

#### PROOF OF SERVICE OF DOCUMENT

I am over the age of 18 and not a party to this bankruptcy case or adversary proceeding. My business address is: 711 East Ocean Avenue, Lompoc, CA 93436

A true and correct copy of the foregoing document entitled: **RESPONSE TO MOTION REGARDING THE AUTOMATIC STAY AND DECLARATION(S) IN SUPPORT** will be served or was served (a) on the judge in chambers in the form and manner required by LBR 5005-2(d); and (b) in the manner stated below:

manner required	d by LBR 500	5-2(d); and (b) in th	ie manner stateu t	DEIOW.			
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United States T	rustee (ND)	ustpregion16.nd.ed	cf@usdoj.gov				
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case or adversa	<u>8/2025</u> , I se ary proceeding age prepaid. a	ATES MAIL: rved the following p g by placing a true a and addressed as fo ter than 24 hours a	and correct copy the lows. Listing the	nereof in a sealed judge here consti	d envelope in th	ne United State	s mail,
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for each person following person such service me	or entity serves and/or entite ethod), by fac	<u>DELIVERY, OVER</u> <u>ved)</u> : Pursuant to F ties by personal de simile transmission overnight mail to, th	R.Civ.P. 5 and/or livery, overnight m and/or email as fo	controlling LBR, ail service, or (for allows. Listing the	on ( <i>date</i> ) r those who co e judge here co	, I servinsented in writing constitutes a dec	ved the ng to laration
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I declare under	penalty of pe	rjury under the laws	s of the United Sta	tes that the foreg	oing is true and	d correct.	
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04/08/2025	Samuel Bos	worth inted Name		Signat	uro C	708 25	
Date	Pi	intea ivame		Signat	ure /		

SAM CHANDRA, ATTY LAW OFFICES OF SAM CHANDRA, APC 710 S. MYRTLE AVE., #600 MONROVIA, CA 91016

THE HONORABLE RONALD CLIFFORD, III UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT 1415 STATE STREET SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101

.CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC P.O. BOX 3549 ANAHEIM, CA 92803

CARRINGTON FORECLOSURE SERVICES, LLC P.O. BOX 3309 ANAHEIM CA 92803

TAI ALAILIMA / DIRECTOR
TRUSTEE OPERATIONS
CARRINGTON FORECLOSURE SERVICES, LLC
SOUTH DOUGLAS RD, STE 140
ANAHEIM, CA 92806